

Claims" which is also attached hereto lists all the claims that are pending upon entry of this amendment.

Please amend the following claims as indicated without prejudice or disclaimer.

17. (Once amended) A method of recovering factor VIII/von Willebrand factor-complex (factor VIII/vWF-complex) comprising:

- (a) providing a factor VIII/vWF-complex containing protein solution,
- (b) providing a cation exchanger,
- (c) binding said factor VIII/vWF-complex of said protein solution on said cation exchanger, and
- (d) eluting factor VIII/vWF-complex from said cation exchanger by a step-wise elution process to recover factor VIII/vWF-complex containing high-molecular weight vWF multimers.

18. (Once amended) A method as set forth in claim 17, wherein said factor VIII/vWF-complex is bound to said cation exchanger at a salt concentration of ≤ 250 mM and factor VIII/vWF-complex containing low-molecular weight vWF multimers, factor VIII free from platelet agglutinating vWF activity, and factor VIII:C is eluted and recovered at a salt concentration of between ≥ 250 mM and ≤ 300 mM.

19. (Once amended) A method as set forth in claim 17, wherein said eluting step comprises eluting said factor VIII/vWF-complex containing high-molecular weight vWF multimers at a salt concentration of ≥ 300 mM.

20. (Once amended) A method as set forth in claim 17, wherein said eluting step comprises eluting said factor VIII/vWF-complex containing high-molecular weight vWF multimers at a salt concentration of ≥ 350 mM.

B6
conclude
21. (Once amended) A method as set forth in claim 19, wherein said recovered factor VIII/vWF-complex is a factor VIII/vWF complex-containing fraction free from low-molecular vWF multimers, vWF degradation products, non complexed factor VIII, and is substantially free of contaminating nucleic acids.

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25. (Once amended) A method as set forth in claim 17, wherein said factor VIII/vWF-complex-containing protein solution is selected from the group consisting of a plasma, a plasma fraction, a cryoprecipitate, a cell-free supernatant of a recombinant cell culture, an extract of a recombinant cell culture, and a protein fraction enriched in factor VIII/vWF-complex.

Please add the following new claims:

B8
38. (New) A method as set forth in claim 18, wherein said eluting step comprises eluting said factor VIII/vWF-complex containing high-molecular weight vWF multimers at a salt concentration of ≥ 300 mM.

39. (New) A method as set forth in claim 18, wherein said eluting step comprises eluting said factor VIII/vWF-complex containing high-molecular weight vWF multimers at a salt concentration of ≥ 350 mM.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please add the following new paragraph as the abstract on a new page at the end of the application:

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--ABSTRACT

Methods for recovering factor VIII/vWF-complex that involve binding factor VIII/vWF-complex from a protein solution to a cation exchanger and recovering factor VIII/vWF-complex by step-wise elution are disclosed. The recovered complex contains high-molecular vWF